

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

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FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6238

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GB, TO

SUBJ: TOGOLESE PRESIDENT'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO GABON

1. TOGOLESE PRESIDENT EYADEMA CONCLUDED HEAVILY PUBLICIZED AND APPARENTLY HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL SEVEN-DAY VISIT TO GABON WITH DEPARTURE MARCH 21 FROM FRANCEVILLE FOR KINSHASA.

2. IN WELCOMING REMARKS PRESIDENT GONGO SALUTED EYADEMA AS A GREAT SON OF AFRICA APPRECIATED FOR HIS RECTITUDE AND MODERATION. THROGHOUT VISIT THEME OF IDENTITY OF VIEWS AND GOALS OF TWO NATIONS STRESSED. (BONG AND EYADEMA EVEN TERMED "TWIN PRESIDENTS" IN SOMEWHAT FORCED REFERENCE TO THEIR HAVING BEEN BORN IN SAME YEAR.) AFTER PROTOCOL ACTIVITIES IN LIBREVILLE, INCLUDING RECEIVING KEYS TO CITY AND PRESENTATION TO DIPLOMATIC CORPS, EYADEMA MADE WHAT HAS BECOME OFFICIAL VISITOR'S STANDARD PILGRIMAGE TO GABONESE INTERIOR VISITING PORT-GENTIL (PETROLEUM REFINERY AND WOOD PROCESSING PLANT), KOULA MOUTOU (FOR A FOOTBALL MATCH AND FOLKLORE DANCING) AND TO MOANDA/FRANCEVILLE AREA IN THE HAUT OGOOUE (PRESIDENT BONGO'S BIRTHPLACE) TO VISIT COMILOG MANGANESE MINE AND ASSIST IN DEDICATION

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OF NEW FRANCEVILLE HEADQUARTERS OF GABON'S PARTI DEMOCRATIQUE

GABONAIS (PDG).

3. IN FINAL COMMUNIQUE, IN ADDITION TO NOTING IDENTITY OF VIEWS ON INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS, NEED TO COOPERATE WITH AFRICAN PARTNERS AND ORGANIZATIONS, AND SUPPORT FOR AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, TWO CHIEFS OF STATE: (A) EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT SIGNING OF LOME CONVENTION; (B) EMPHASIZED NECESSITY TO DEVELOP NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER TO PREVENT FURTHER DETERIORATION IN TERMS OF TRADE, TO ASSIGN A JUST PRICE TO PRIMARY PRODUCTS AND TO FACILITATE INDUSTRIALIZATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; (C) REAFFIRMED THEIR ATTACHMENT TO OAU CHARTER AND PRINCIPLES OF NATIONAL UNITY, NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES AND PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTS; (D) CONDEMNED RACIST AND COLONIALIST POLICIES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND CURRENT MANEUVERS BY SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WHICH SEEK TO DIVIDE AFRICAN STATES. THEY ALSO DEMANDED THAT SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES ESTABLISH WITHOUT DELAY A DIALOGUE WITH THE COUNTRY'S BLACK MAJORITY; (E) APPLAUDED HARMONIOUS PROGRESS OF DECOLONIZATION OF PORTUGUESE COLONIES.

4. VISIT ALSO PRODUCED SIGNING OF A GENERAL COOPERATION CONVENTION, AN ACCORD CREATING A MIXED COMMISSION, A COMMERCIAL ACCORD AND AN ACCORD FOR THE FREE CIRCULATION OF PERSONS AND GOODS. LAST, WE UNDERSTAND, INCLUDED PROVISION FOR ENTRY OF TOGOLESE LABORERS INTO GABON TO AMELIORATE CURRENT LABOR SHORTAGE, AND WAS THUS MOST IMPORTANT RESULT OF EYADEMA VISIT.

5. DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT.
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